Spring is just around the corner and we will all be busy grooming our plants for the summer and another season of beautiful Hibiscus shows. After we have sprayed, fertilized and watered our plants we will again take them at the peak of perfection to the shows and show them with our friends to show the results of our efforts.

The next quarterly Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the Show at the Fair and the headquarters will be the beautiful new Causeway Inn on Courtney Campbell Causeway in Tampa. The meeting on Feb. 17 will start at 8:00 P. M. and we will have a most interesting slide show at the conclusion of the meeting. While those persons who are not members of the Board do not have a vote, anyone who wishes to see how their organization is run is cordially invited to come to the meeting and see the slides afterwards.

May the good Lord look on all you love, tenderly today.

– Rosalie Wylie

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PINEWOOD NURSERY

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HIBISCUS HIBISCUS

CROTONS PALMS

OTHER PLANTS

You can find whatever you want when you don't want it by looking where it wouldn't be if you did want it.

GENERAL SPRING CARE

In this issue we will lump all the culture into one article. You will have to interpolate for your area. If you are in the northern area about Jacksonville way, you will have to start a little later. Then on down thru the state to Miami.

After the last frost and cold snap, if you can judge when that is, you will need to get the bank pulled down if you did bank your plants. When you take the bank down you should trim out all dead wood and shape up your plants. Now is the time to do your drastic cutting. Don't be afraid to cut back hard as new growth will come out and this new growth is where the buds will form. After your hard cutting is done you will not want to prune, just enough to keep the plant within bounds. Don't cut off the buds you have worked so hard to get.

What mixture of fertilizer do you use? If fifty people wrote this article you would get 50 different Mixtures. The best I can tell you is to attend your chapter meetings and talk it over with others who grow Hibiscus and arrive at the mix that works best for you in your area. A trip to the feed and fertilizer store, your nurseryman or county agent will be helpful. I like to feed my plants lightly often rather than two or three big slugs during the spring and summer. Hibiscus like organics, so use a mix with high organics. Be sure to use one that contains the trace elements. A good nutrient spray helps now and then too. I think that it is more important to get a good well rounded program and then stick to it rather than skip around and try everything that comes along. Your plants are the same as people. They get used to a certain system and thrive better with this system than a hap-hazzard program.

Fertilizer depends upon your individual soil too much for us to tell you what to use. You should have the pH of your soil checked and corrected if it